

Representatives and the Senate. In 1992, President George H. W. Bush appointed Rabbi Schiff to serve on the "We Will Rebuild Committee." This committee helped restore the areas in south Florida that were severely damaged by Hurricane Andrew. Lawton Chiles, the late Governor of Florida, appointed Rabbi Schiff to serve on a task force to examine the problems of the homeless. Thanks to that task force, two new homeless assistance centers were created in Miami-Dade County alone. More recently, Florida Governor Jeb Bush invited Rabbi Schiff to serve on his Faith-Based Advisory Board.

Rabbi Schiff is known and admired for treating everyone with equal dignity and respect. He has always found time in his schedule to visit as many in need as possible, from ill hospital patients to the homeless. His spiritual guidance is an enduring legacy to the countless individuals he has encountered throughout his career.

Although Rabbi Schiff has won numerous awards, and has served on many local and national committees, the greatest honor he has ever received is the love and support of his family. He and his wife, Shirley, have three grown sons, Elliot, Jeffrey and Steven, and they are the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren. I wish him well as he begins this new chapter in his life, and we all celebrate his many remarkable achievements.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT A.
GERYE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert A. Gerye for his tireless work to enhance the educational experience of the children of Clark County.

Bob Gerye has been an educator for nearly 30 years. He received his bachelors degree in English education from Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, and his graduate and post-graduate degrees from the University of Kansas. He taught English on the college level for several years in Kansas before becoming a secondary education administrator.

Mr. Gerye moved to Las Vegas in 1992. He was the founding principal of the Las Vegas Academy of International Studies, Performing and Visual Arts, which opened in 1993. The Las Vegas Academy was the first academic, dedicated magnet school in the Clark County School District. Mr. Gerye developed and implemented an innovative curriculum which offered students the opportunity to select a major area of study from one of the academy's seven programs and take classes in a college-style block format. During Mr. Gerye's tenure as principal, the Las Vegas Academy was recognized on several occasions at both the State and the national level. In November 2000, the U.S. Department of Education honored the academy as a "New American High School," recognizing it as one of the top high schools in the United States. In October 2002, the academy was again honored by the U.S. Department of Education when it was named a "Blue Ribbon School." In March 2003, the Las Vegas Academy received the Governor's Arts Awards in Education from the State of

Nevada in recognition of its outstanding arts education programs.

As a result of his many successes as an educator, Bob has received numerous accolades. In 1998, Bob received the Community Achievement Award in Education from the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce for his work at the Las Vegas Academy. In 2000, the Clark County School District inducted Bob into the Excellence in Education Hall of Fame. In 2004, he was named the Nevada High School Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary Schools Principals and was a finalist for the National Principal of the Year Award. Mr. Gerye has also received the Jeffrey Lawrence Lifetime Achievement Award for Arts Education, and the Washburn University Alumni Fellows Award for Lifetime Achievement in Education.

In 2003, Bob was selected by the Clark County School District to plan and implement the first Smaller Learning Communities/Career Academy comprehensive high school in the District. As a result of Bob Gerye's strong leadership and his commitment to excellence in education, Spring Valley High School has demonstrated overwhelming success in overcoming many of the challenges faced by a brand new school with a brand new educational structure.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Robert A. Gerye for his contributions to education. He has dedicated his career to improving the quality and the availability of education. His enthusiastic and innovative approach has helped his students reach heights of achievement. Bob Gerye has made a profound difference in our community and we are most fortunate to have such a gifted educator and administrator in the Clark County School District. I applaud his many successes and I wish him the very best as he continues to serve the cause of education.

CONGRATULATING MARC BELLE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marc Belle of Flower Mound, Texas, on receiving the venerated 2006 Presidential Freedom Scholarship. As a recipient of this prestigious award, he is recognized for his outstanding leadership and commitment to servicing of his community and its residents.

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship program, sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service and administered by Learn and Serve America, honors select high school juniors and seniors, displaying exceptional service and citizenship, with a \$1,000 scholarship to the college of their choice. To be eligible for nomination, individuals must have completed at least one hundred hours of community service and receive the recommendation of their high school.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere congratulations to Marc Belle on receiving this award and commend his dedication and desire to help his school, community and country.

TRIBUTE TO CAPT. CHRISTOPHER
PATE OF BEAVERTON, OREGON

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an American soldier who gave his life in service to our Nation.

U.S. Marine Captain Christopher Pate of Beaverton, Oregon was killed in action during operations in Iraq. Captain Pate is survived by his parents, Jerry and Kathy Pate of Lady Lake, Florida, and a fiancée, Margaret Stearns.

While on patrol in Iraq, Captain Pate's patrol was struck by an improvised explosive device, ripping through his unit. Using his dying words to radio for medical assistance, Captain Pate's bravery and actions most likely saved the lives of two other soldiers severely wounded in the attack.

Joining the Marines in 1999, Chris Pate achieved the rank of Captain in July, 2004. Stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, he was assigned to the 2nd Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force. Serving in Okinawa, Korea, Thailand, South America and Yemen, Captain Pate eventually volunteered for two tours in Iraq.

A modern day renaissance man, Captain Pate will be remembered for his love of languages, his sense of adventure and a desire for knowledge. Having paddled up the Amazon, spent time in a monastery, studied esoteric Eastern religions, and learned Spanish, German and Arabic, he was well on his way to achieving his dreams. Scheduled to return from Iraq in November, Captain Pate and his fiancée were planning their wedding ceremony and anticipating a move to Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, it is soldiers like Captain Pate who have volunteered to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear. While brave men and women like Chris have perished in the name of freedom and liberty, his family, friends and loved ones should know that this Congress will never forget his sacrifice and commitment.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
HERMAN BOONE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of Herman Boone. As a high school football coach in Alexandria, Virginia, Mr. Boone inspired players to set aside racial differences and unite into one of the most successful teams in Virginia's history.

In 1971, Mr. Boone was named head football coach of TC Williams High School, a high school recently formed from smaller, segregated schools. In order to promote cooperation and teamwork, Mr. Boone used a game plan that was as strong on the field as off the field. Mr. Boone's leadership and love of the game led his team to an undefeated, 13-0 season. But his most memorable win was helping the community of Alexandria traverse